(c) what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSHI): (a) to (c) Some of the pesticides that are allowed to be imported under OGL are listed in Serial No. 172 of Appendix 6, List 8, Part I of the Import & Export Policy, 1985—88 (Volume—I) copies of which are available in Parliament Library. Import of their formulations and other pesticides is allowed under Serial No. 219 of Appendix 3, Part A and Serial No. 46 of Appendix 2, Part B of the aforesaid Policy, under Supplementary Licensing Procedure, after taking into account indigenous availability and other related factors.

Purchase of Polyester Staple Fibre by NTC

1640. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that M/s National Textiles Corporation had purchased a huge quantity of Polyester Staple Fibre at a very high rate recently; whereas the market rate in the month of March, 1987 was much less than that;

(b) whether it is a fact that in spite of there being not so much requirement, several crores were paid to this company in the month of March to lift the entire quantity; and

(c) whether it is a fact that because of the above M/s. National Textiles Corporation has lost a huge amount of money in the month of March, 1987 by way of loss of interest and payment of high prices?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) NTC had contracted in December, 1986 the purchase of 1000 MT of Polyester Staple fibre on competative terms.

(b) The quantity contracted was based on the assessment of requirement for the period from January, 1987 to March, 1987.

(c) No, Sir.

Per Capita availability of cloth

1641. SHRI KALPNATH RAI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) what was the per capita availability of cloth in the country during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) whether the per capita availability of cloth has been increasing during these years;

(c) if not, what steps are being taken to increase the per capita availability of cloth; and

(d) what steps are being taken to make more cloth of the standard varieties available to the economically weaker sections?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) The per capita availability of cloth (cotton, blended/mixed and 100 per cent non-cotton) during the last three years is given below:

(Figures in mtrs)

Year	Per capita availability of cloth
1984	14.452
1985	14.84
1986	15.01

(b) and (c) It will be observed from the figures indicated at (a) above that there has been increase in the availability of cloth over the years.